

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of The Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a ribbon-like filament configured in a flexible helical coil having a plurality of turns, the filament having a rectangular cross-sectional profile flat shape and an integral outer edge along its length, the edge being shaped to define along which is formed a plurality of outwardly projecting barbs that project from the edge and are adapted to engage surrounding tissue in which the implant is embedded, ~~the filament being configured in a flexible helical coil having a plurality of turns.~~

2. (Previously presented) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the barbs are proximally facing.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a flexible helical coil having ~~a corresponding helical~~ an outer, helical edge and shaped to define a plurality of integral outwardly extending barbs projecting from the edge, each barb having a rounded contour adapted to engage surrounding tissue.

5. (Previously presented) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein each barb has a sharp point configured for engaging tissue.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An implant device as defined in claim 1 wherein each turn of the coil has a proximally facing edge and a plurality of barbs projecting from the edge of each turn.

8. (Currently amended) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a flexible helical coil having ~~a corresponding helical edge and an outer,~~ integral edge shaped to define a plurality of outwardly extending barbs adapted to engage surrounding tissue projecting from the edge of each coil, wherein the coil is formed from a , the coil being in the form of a flat filament and comprising a plurality of materials each having a different modulus of elasticity.

9. (Currently amended) An implant as defined in claim 8 wherein the coil spring is formed from metal.

10. (Previously presented) An implant as defined in claim 9 wherein the metal is stainless steel.

11. (Currently amended) An implant as defined in claim 8 wherein the ~~moduli~~ modulus of elasticity of the coil varies along its length.

12.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A method of forming a tissue implant device comprising:
forming a ribbon from a sheet of material by a photochemical etching process, the ribbon having an edge along its length and a plurality of integral barbs projecting from defining the edge, in a sheet of material by a photochemical etching process;
separating the ribbon formed from the sheet of material; and
wrapping the ribbon so formed ~~form~~ into a helical coil ~~shape~~, plastically deforming the ribbon so that it retains the coil shape with the barbs projecting from the edge outwardly of the coil.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 14 wherein the barbs are is formed along an edge that will be proximally facing after the ribbon is wrapped into a coil shape.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A method of forming a tissue implant device as defined in claim 14 further comprising forming a plurality of ribbons in a single sheet of material by photochemical etching process.

19. (Withdrawn): A method of implanting a tissue implant device comprising:
providing a flexible helical spring having at least one coil with at least one projecting barb that engages surrounding tissue;
providing a delivery device having a penetrating distal tip and being configured to hold the tissue implant for delivery into tissue;
advancing the delivery device and loaded tissue implant into biological tissue so that the tissue is penetrated and the implant is inserted into the tissue;
releasing the tissue implant into the tissue;
withdrawing the implant delivery device.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of delivering a tissue implant device as defined in claim 19 wherein the tissue is accessed surgically.

21. (Withdrawn) A method of delivering a tissue implant device as defined in claim 19 wherein the biological tissue is accessed percutaneously.

22. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 9 wherein the coil is formed from a nickel titanium alloy.

23. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 2 wherein the barbs project proximally away from the edge of the coil.

24. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 3 wherein the barbs project radially outward from the edge of the coil at an angle inclined in the proximal direction.

25. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 3 wherein the barbs curve radially outward from the edge of the coil at an angle inclined in the proximal direction.